

REMARKS

With the cancellation of claim 9, claims 10 to 16 are pending in the present application, since claims 1 to 8 were previously canceled. It is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicant notes with appreciation the acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statements, PTO-1449 papers, and cited references.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 10 and 11 include allowable subject matter. In this regard, the Examiner will note that claim 10 (from which claim 11 depends) has been rewritten herein in independent form and to include the subject matter of its base claim. The Examiner will further note that each of claims 12 to 16 has been amended herein without prejudice to depend from claim 10. Accordingly, all of claims 10 to 16 are in condition for immediate allowance.

The remaining rejected claim has been canceled, thereby rendering moot the remaining claim rejection.

Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the claims as previously presented in a continuation patent application. Further, any disclaimer that may have occurred during the prosecution of this application is expressly rescinded as regards any subsequently filed patent application.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims 10 to 16 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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